



U.S. Army RDECOM-ARDEC
RDAR-MEE-M
Picatinny Arsenal, NJ

Armament Related Corrosion Studies & Sensor Prototyping



TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.

U.S. Army Corrosion Summit 2010

Presented by: Daniel P. Schmidt
February 11, 2010

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- Overview
 - ARDEC & our mission
 - Accelerated Corrosion Facility at Picatinny
- On-going Corrosion Studies
- Materials Printing / Corr Sensor



AMC



RDECOM



ARDEC

Armament Research, Development & Engineering Center (ARDEC)

Vision:

Innovative Armaments Solutions for Today and Tomorrow

Mission:

To develop and maintain a world-class workforce to execute and manage integrated life-cycle engineering processes required for the research, development, production, field support and demilitarization of munitions, weapons, fire control and associated items

Locations:

- Picatinny Arsenal, NJ
- Benet Labs (Watervliet Arsenal), NY
- Rock Island Arsenal, IL
- Adelphi & APG, MD

**Providing the lethality technology for
over 90% of the Army's munitions**



Overview: ARDEC Mission



Electro Magnetic
Gun



Small/Cannon Caliber
Ammunition



Insensitve Munitions
Technology



M777A2 Lightweight
155mm Howitzer



Excalibur

Demilitarization

Research & Development

Production

**SUPPORT
TOTAL
LIFE
CYCLE**

Field Support



Gunner Protection Kits



M110 Semi-Automatic
Sniper System



M240B 7.62MM
Machine Gun



40mm Multi-Shot
Launcher

TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.

Atmospheric Exposure



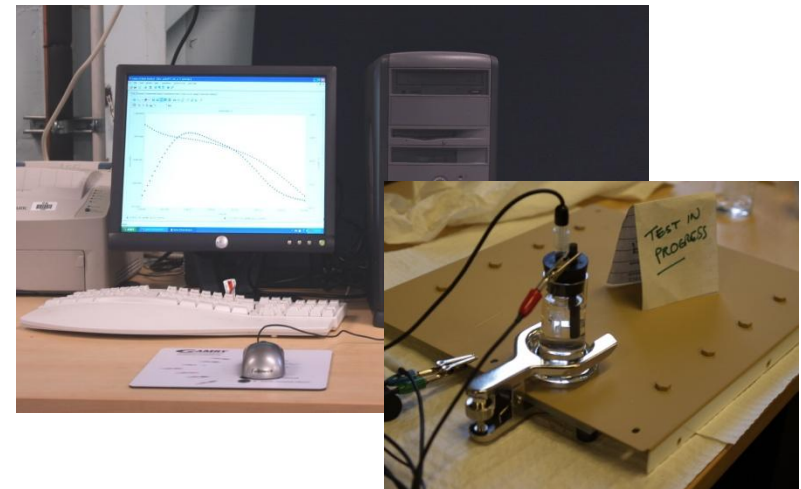
Cyclic Corrosion Chambers



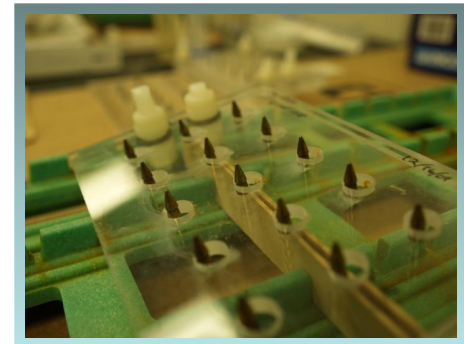
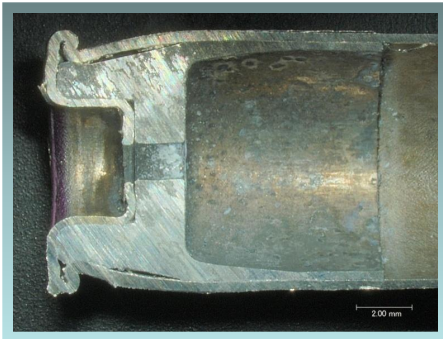
Weathering Chambers



Electrochemical Analysis



Several on-going corrosion studies at ARDEC related to Armament issues and concerns.



Project: Lightweight Small Cal Ammo

Background:

- Designing/developing stainless steel cartridge case
- For structural support inserting Al plug

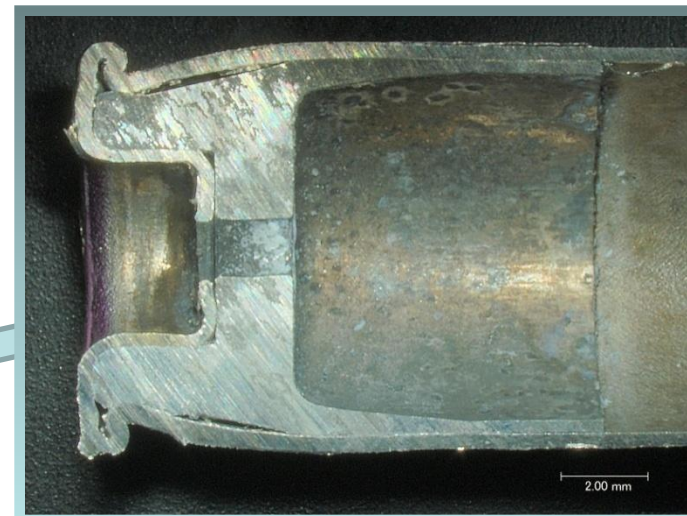
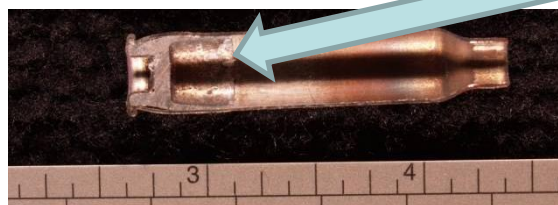
Issue:

- Possible galvanic couples that could lead to corrosion
- 3 main galvanic couples of concern shown below:

1.	Plug Insert 7075 T6 Aluminum	Cartridge Case 305 Stainless Steel
2.	Bullet Jacket Cu Alloy 220	Cartridge Case 305 Stainless Steel
3.	Cartridge Links 1045 Carbon Steel	Cartridge Case 305 Stainless Steel



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons (public domain)



Project: Lightweight Small Cal Ammo

Representative Materials

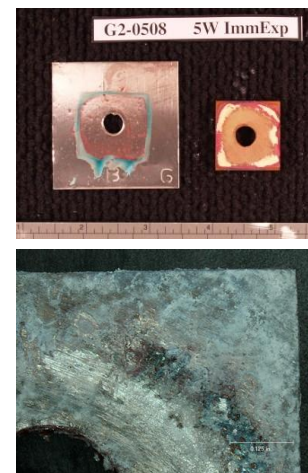
Testing:

- Representative materials were selected and specimen set-ups were made for several different tests

Atmospheric Exposure

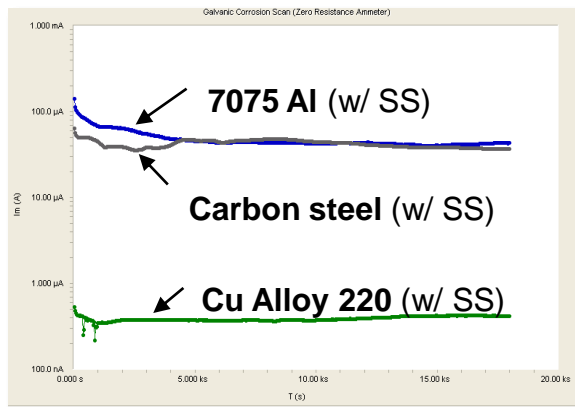
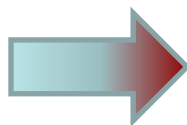
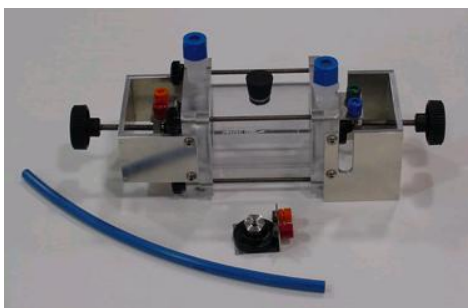


Constant Immersion



- Visual inspection
- Corr product analysis
- Weight loss
- Corrosion morphology and location

Zero Resistance Ammeter (ZRA) Test



- Plot galvanic current vs. time
- Used to monitor galvanic interactions b/w electrodes
- Corrosion potentials can provide info on sacrificial protection

Project: Lightweight Small Cal Ammo

Actual Components

Exposures:

- Sample 7.62 SS cartridge cases were cross-sectioned lengthwise
- Specimen holders were designed to accommodate racks in atmospheric test yard
- Results will be compared with representative materials testing



7.62 SS cartridge after being cross-sectioned



Corrosion Instrumented Test Yard (CITY)
at Picatinny Arsenal, NJ



Project: M2A1 Ammo Can Coatings

Actual Components

Background:

- Looking for alternative coatings to current liquid dip alkyd to improve/maintain performance, cost and environmental impact

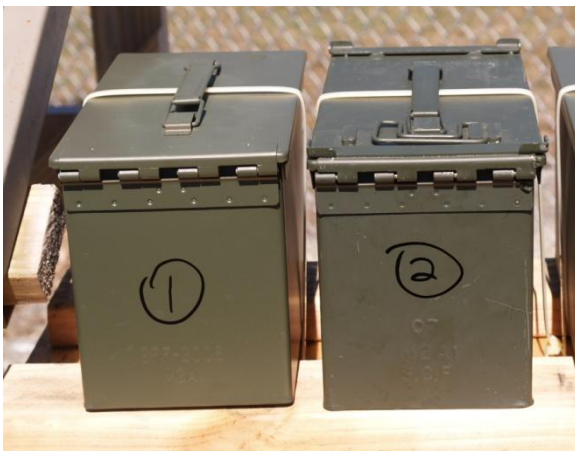
Issue:

- Epoxy powder formulation may be susceptible to UV degradation

Testing:

- Side-by-side exposure in Picatinny's Corrosion Instrumented Test Yard (CITY)

April 2009



September 2009



Project: Small Cal Green Bullet

Actual Components

Background:

- Program initiative to create an environmentally-friendly bullet design

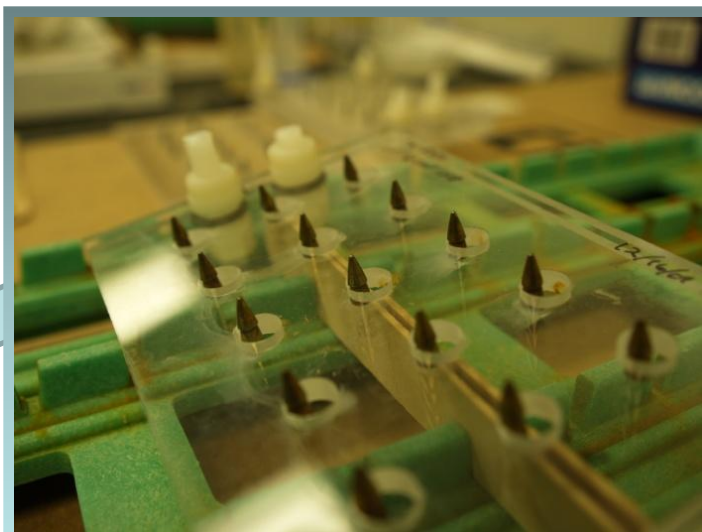
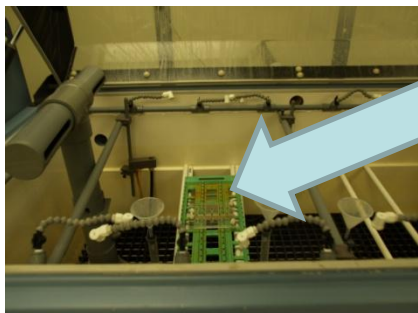
Issue:

- Need to test corrosion resistance of coatings for penetrator protection

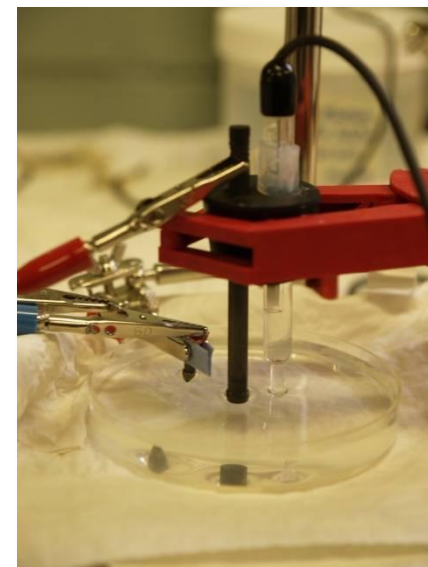
On-going Testing:

- Qualitative comparison in 48hr salt fog exposures (ASTM B117)
- Electrochemical assessment (E_{oc} , EIS, etc.)
- Plan to do atmospheric exposures

Salt fog exposure in cyclic corrosion chamber



Electrochemical test set-up



Studies: Representative vs. Actual

Representative Materials

Actual Components

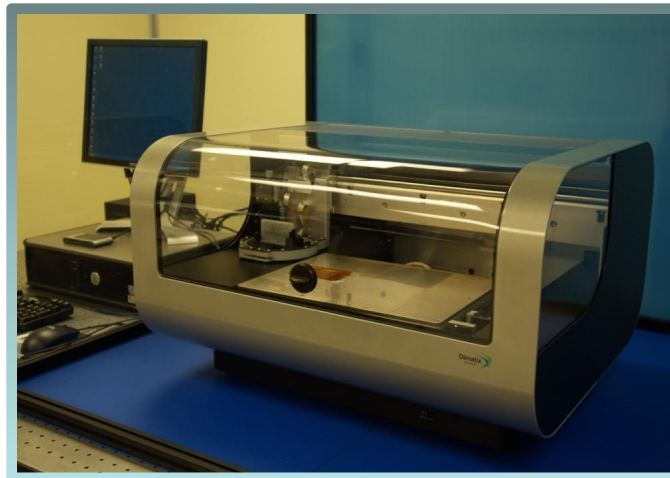
Advantages

- **Cost**
- **Size**
- **Availability**
- **Security**
- **Reproducibility**

- **Geometry (shape)**
- **Interfaces and area ratios**
- **Manufacturing steps**
- **More realistic surfaces**
- **Residual stresses**

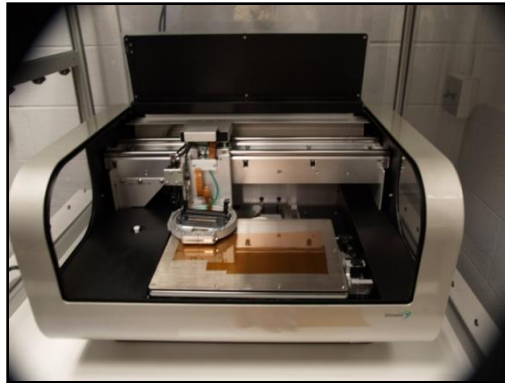


Sensor design & prototyping using materials printing

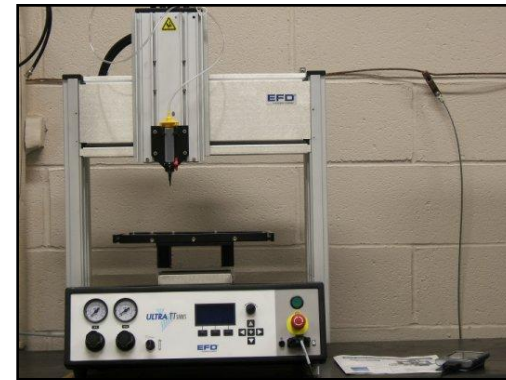


What is MATERIALS PRINTING?

Nanoparticles (dispersed in solvents to form nano-inks) are deposited and then annealed to form patterns on a range of substrates.



Ink-jet Printing (Drop-on-Demand)

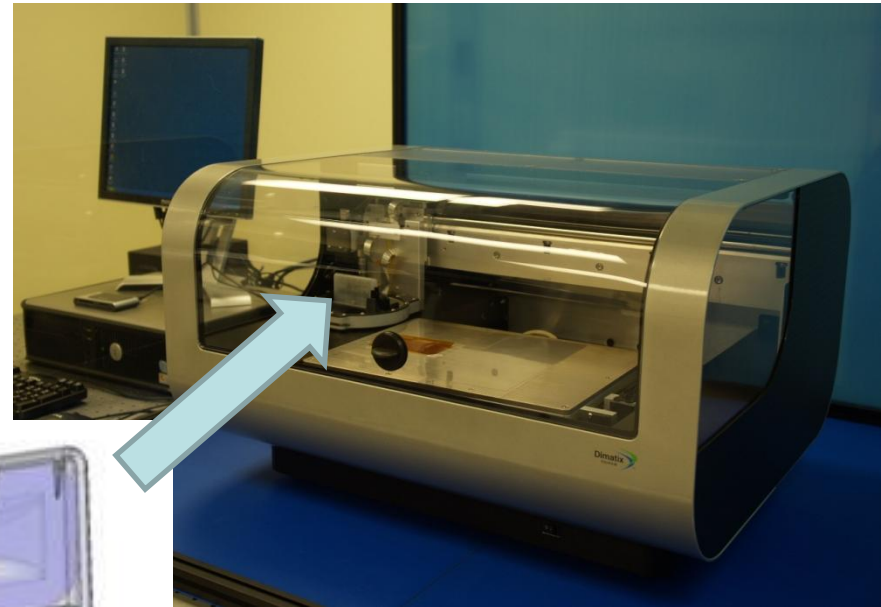
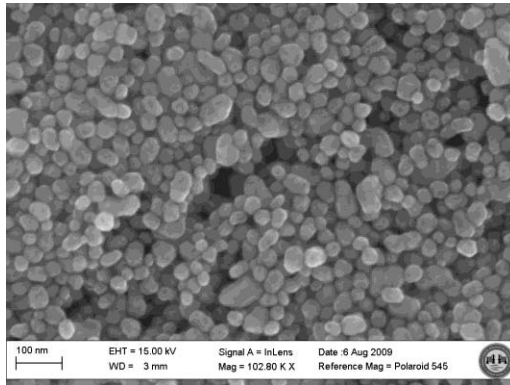


Direct Write

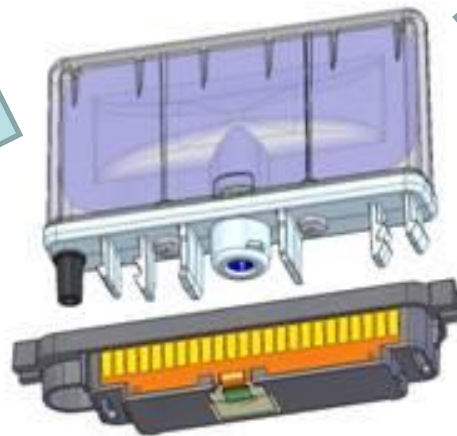
Why is ARDEC interested?

- flexible substrate = fit electronics & larger payloads into munitions
- tailorable effects and applications
- ease of manufacturing / versatility
- lower cost (eg. sensors, electronics, fuzing)
- advanced materials

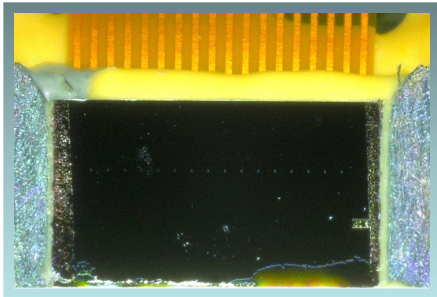
Nano-Inks



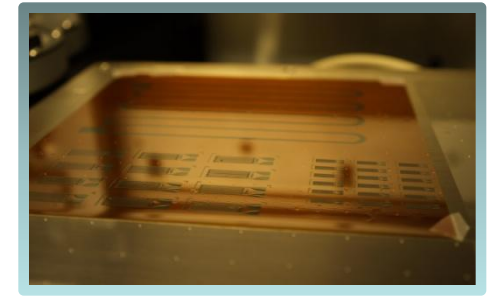
Dimatix Materials Printer System



Print cartridge



Bottom-up view of 16 piezo-controlled nozzles



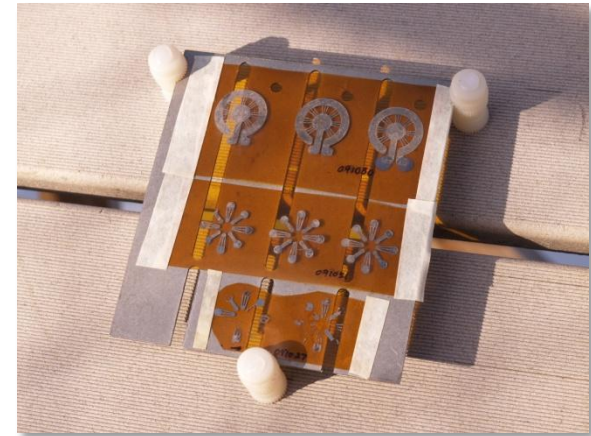
Ink deposited on flexible substrate (pre-anneal)



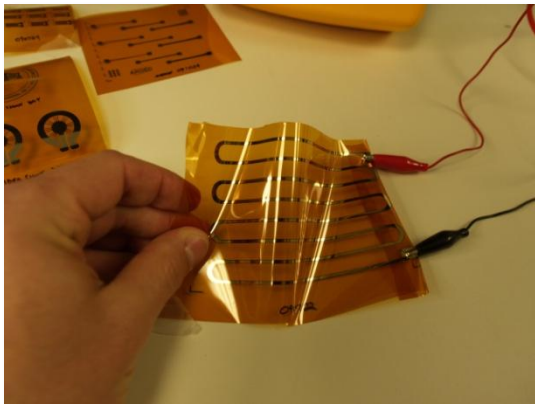
Flexible Initiator



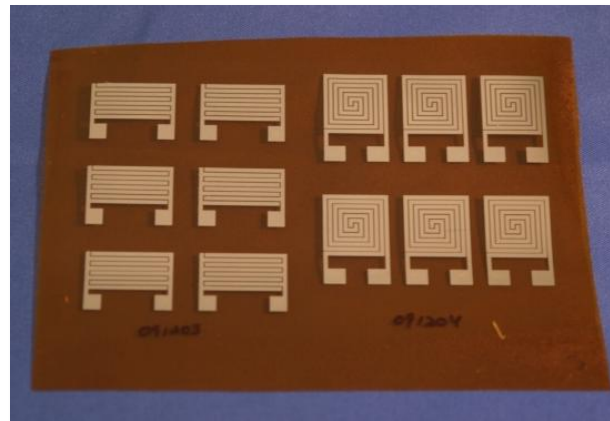
ARDEC Logo



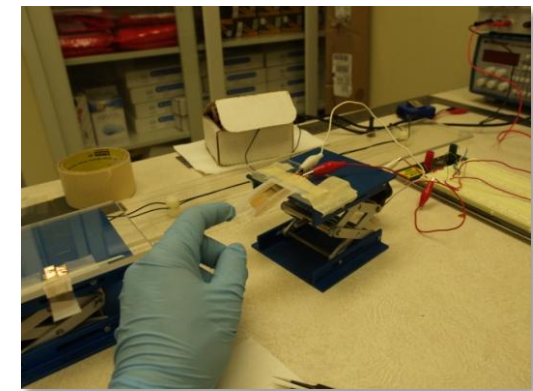
Corrosivity Sensors



Scratch Sensors



Capacitors



Strain Sensors

Designed

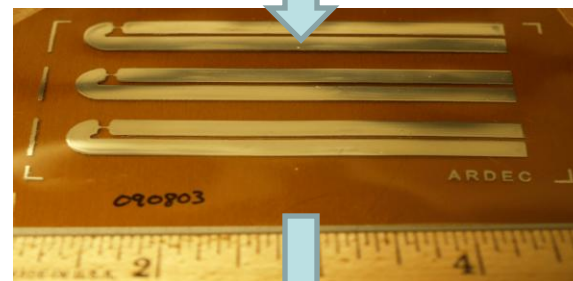
- used computer software to design pattern
- based on low voltage initiation of bridge-wire
- several iterations

Prototyped

- material selection
- refined ink-jetting process parameters
- annealing steps
- also several iterations

Tested

- loaded with primary and secondary explosives
- initiated devices with low voltages in blast chambers
- used witness plates to confirm detonations



SUCCESSFUL
now patent pending

Designed

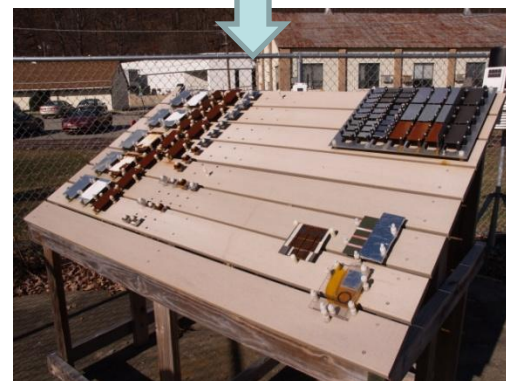
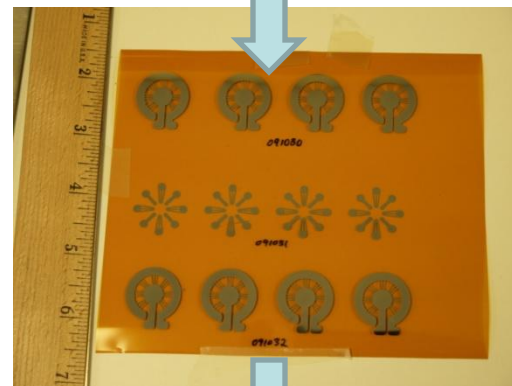
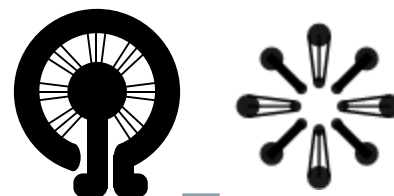
- used computer software to create 2 designs
- based on resistance and visual changes
- initial iteration

Prototyped

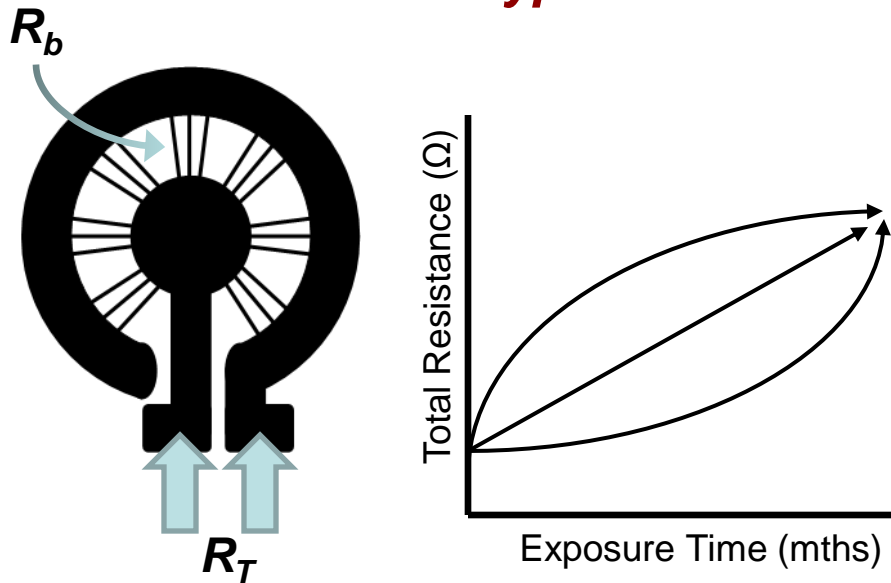
- material selection
- refined ink-jetting process parameters
- annealing and encapsulation steps
- initial iteration

On-going Testing

- initiated exposure in C.I.T.Y. (atmospheric test yard)
- measure resistance and take pictures
- correlate results with exposure time
- new materials and designs

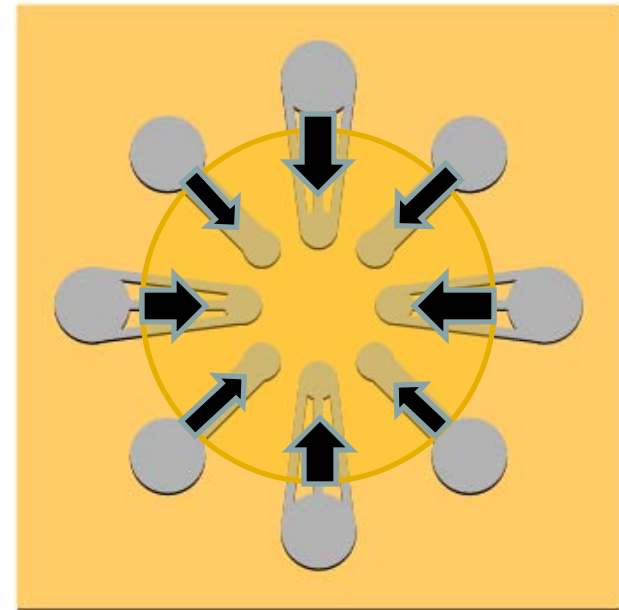


Sensor Type A



$$R_T = R_b / 21$$

Sensor Type B



- Several on-going corrosion studies at ARDEC
 - related to coatings and materials
 - atmospheric, chamber, lab-scale and electrochemical testing
 - using representative as well as actual components
 - developing new test methods
- Sensor design & prototyping using materials printing
 - several components have been made
 - corrosivity sensors currently being studied
 - plans for future designs and materials



Questions...ask now if you're *lost*.